F-1-109 John Morningstar House Buckeystown Private

The John Morningstar House is one of the earliest structures located in the town appearing on the 1858 map of Buckeystown.

It was originally built as a simple frame double house. In 1888, Daniel Baker purchased the property and probably added the existing center gable.

The house was tenanted to Morningstar for many years. Morningstar served as an overseer/bookkeeper of the Baker properties which numbered in the dozens in and around Buckeystown. He worked in the Baker office building located a short distance from the house as a handyman.

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CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

XFAIR

__DETERIORATED
__RUINS
__UNEXPOSED

_UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE
__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The John Morningstar House is a two story gable roofed frame residence which faces east from the west side of Route 85 in Buckeystown.

The principal facade is four bays wide. A 1905 photograph of the building indicates that it was originally constructed as a duplex which explains why there are two main entrances located in the second and third bay. The doors have been replaced, but were four panel doors originally with four light transoms.

Double hung 6/6 windows were replaced by the existing 2/2 windows with flanking louvered shutters.

A frame porch with turned columns and simple railing extends between the first and fourth bay on the first level. Two sets of stairs rise to the porch in front of the main entrances. An old photograph of the building indicates that a similar porch with railing and two sets of steps, but no roof preceded the existing porch.

After 1905 a center gable was added to the existing flank gabled roof. A narrow six pane window is located in the center of this gable.

A two story original addition extends to the rear of the building.

The building is constructed on a high random stone foundation which protected the building from the frequent floods from the nearby creek.

Brick piers support the porch. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles with a boxed cornice with return and plain frieze.

Two single brick chimneys straddle the north and south gable ends.

The entire building is covered with asphalt shingling over the original clapboarding.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Morningstar House was built by William G. Baker soon after he purchased the land from his father, Daniel Baker, in $1888.^1$ The land originally had been part of the "Old Stone House Property" owned by Benjamin Duvall and later Grafton Duvall.²

Henry Baker, who was a trustee of Grafton Duvall's estate, sold the property to his brother, Daniel in 1872. The house, which is built in the typical center gabled Carpenter Gothic style of many of the residences in Buckeystown, was tenanted to John Morningstar for many years.

Morningstar served as an overseer/bookkeeper of the Baker properties which numbered in the dozens in and around Buckeystown. He worked in the Baker office building located a short distance from the house as a handyman.

Lena Baker, wife of John H. Baker, sold the property out of the Baker Family in 1957.

¹Frederick County Land Records, Liber NIP 6; Folio 280.

²Frederick County Probate Records, Liber TLMC 1; Folio 527.

³Frederick County Land Records, Liber CM 9; Folio 167.

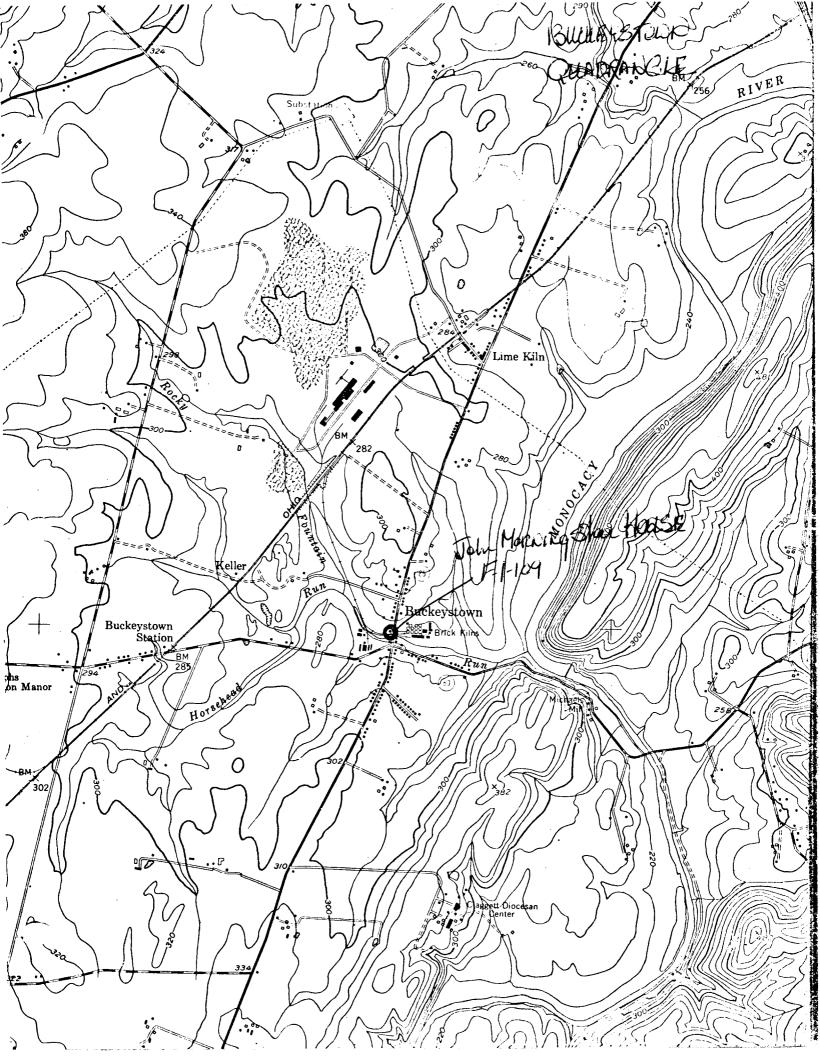
9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438





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